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09/977,376	10/16/2001	Masahiro Fukuda	1163-0363P	3054

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BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH
PO BOX 747
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747

EXAMINER	
NATNAEL, PAULOS M	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2614	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/977,376	FUKUDA, MASAHIRO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Paulos M. Natnael	2614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *16 October 2001*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *2,4*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims **1-3, 9-13, 19-20** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yamada et al. U.S. Patent No. **6,288,750.**

Considering claim **1**, Yamada et al. discloses the following claimed subject matter, note; a) a display video generation means for generating a display video signal based on a video signal received together with added information, is met by Transport Decoder 4, Fig.1, which receives a composite signal comprising Ss, A (Audio), and V (Video) data, and generates and outputs Ss, Audio, and video signals to the CPU, Audio decoder 8, and video decoder 200, repectively.

b) an associated information storage means for storing associated information different from the added information, is met by Work Ram 202 (Figs. 1 and 2) which stores OSD data generated by the CPU 7, (Fig. 1). (see col. 5, lines 46-51)

c) an information output means for outputting the associated information stored in said associated generated by said display video generation means while associating them with each other, is met by Video Decoder 200, fig.1;

Considering claim **2**, the output information control device according to Claim 1, wherein said information output means outputs both the associated information and the display video signal associated with the associated information so that they are synchronized with each other, is met by Video Decoder 200 fig.1 which outputs, using the synthesizing part 209 (fig.2) combined OSD data, additional information and the video data. (see col. 7, lines 28-32)

Considering claim **3**, the output information control device according to Claim 1, wherein said information output means combines the associated information and the display video signal so as to produce a composite signal;

See rejection of claim 2;

Considering claim **9**, the output information control device according to Claim 1, further comprising a communication means for acquiring the associated information to be stored in said associated information storage means through bi-directional data communications by way of a communication line, is met by the bus 11, which sends the OSD data (So) (i.e. associated information) from the CPU to the Work RAM 202 via Video Decoder 200, figs.1 and 2;

Considering claim **10**, the output information control device according to Claim 1, further comprising a reading means for acquiring the associated information to be stored in said associated information storage means by reading the associated information from a storage medium, is met by CPU 7 which generates and reads the OSD data and outputs it to the Work RAM 202 for storage. (fig.1)

Considering claim **11**, an output information control method comprising the steps of:

a) generating a display video signal based on a video signal received together with an added information signal that carries added information,

b) storing associated information different from the added information,

c) outputting the stored associated information and the generated display video signal while associating them with each other.

Regarding claim 11 (a), (b), and (c), see rejection of claim 1 (a), (b) and (c), respectively.

Considering claim **12**, the output information control method according to Claim 11, where-in said information output step is the step of outputting both the associated information and the display video signal associated with the associated information so that they are synchronized with each other.

Regarding claim 12, see rejection of claim 2;

Considering claim **13**, the output information control method according to Claim 11, wherein said information output step is the step of combining the associated information and the display video signal so as to produce a composite signal.

Regarding claim 13, see rejection of claim 3;

Considering claim **19**, comprising the step of acquiring the associated information to be stored through bi-directional data communications by way of a communication line.

Regarding claim 19, see rejection of claim 9;

Considering claim **20**, the output information control method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of acquiring the associated information to be stored by reading the associated information from a storage medium.

Regarding claim 20, see rejection of claim 10;

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims **5 and 15** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada, U.S. Patent No. **6,288,750.**

Considering claim 5, Yamada discloses the following claimed subject matter, note;

a) an added information decoding means for decoding the added information signal so as to generate the added information, is met by Transport Decoder 4, fig.1;

Except for;

b) wherein said information output means selects and outputs at least one from among the added information generated by said added information decoding means and the associated information stored in said associated information storing means;

Regarding b), the video decoder 200 through its synthesizer 209 combines the video signal, OSD data (So), Broadcast Wave Information (Sb), and the additional information (Ss) received along with the video signal and outputs the combined signal as a video signal output (see Figs.1,2,7 and 8). Yamada et al does not specifically disclose a selector to select at least one from the various signals received. However, it would have been obvious to the skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Yamada et al. by providing a selector or a switch within the decoder so that the user/viewer would have a choice of selecting, for example, either the OSD data and the video data, the broadcast wave information and the video data, or the additional information (which could be information such as caption, subtitles or other text) and the video data, instead of compelling the user to view all received signals, because the viewer may not want to view all such additional information superimposed with the video signal at all time.

Considering claim **15**, the output information control method according to claim 11, further comprising the step of decoding the added information signal so as to generate the added information, wherein said information output step includes the step of selecting and outputting at least one from among the generated added information and the stored associated information.

Regarding claim 15, see rejection of claim 5;

5. Claims **6, 8, 16, and 18** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada, U.S. Patent No. **6,288,750** in view of Kirkland, U.S. Pat. No. 5,900,908.

Considering claim 6 and 16, the claimed an information translation means for translating the associated information stored in said associated information storage means into translation information written in a different language, and a translation information storage means for storing the translation information generated by said information translation means;

Regarding claim 6 and 16, Yamada does not specifically disclose translating the associated information stored in Work RAM 202 into different language. However, it is well known in the art to translate a text of one language into another different language. In this regard, Kirkland discloses a system and method for providing described

television services, wherein the apparatus may include a translator for translating the description data into a foreign language prior to converting it into the speech signal. (see Abstract) Therefore, it would have been obvious to the skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Yamada et al. by providing the translator of Kirkland in order to translate any additional information such as captions or subtitles into a different language, so that a viewer would have the opportunity to view the program in the language of their choice.

Considering claim 8, wherein said information output means selects and outputs at least one from among the added information generated by said added information decoding means, the associated information stored in said associated information storing means, and the translation information stored in said translation information storage means, is met by is met by Video Decoder 200 fig.1 which outputs, using the synthesizing part 209 (fig.2) combined OSD data, additional information and the video data. (see col. 7, lines 28-32) (see also the rejection of claim 5 concerning selection)

Considering claim **18**, see rejection of claim 8.

6. Claims **4, 14,** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada, U.S. Patent No. **6,288,750** in view of Branscomb, U.S. Pat. No. 5,684,514.

Considering claims 4 and 14, the claimed wherein an associated information stored in an associated information storage means is subdivided into a plurality of pieces of information to each of which a number identifying a corresponding part of the display video signal is assigned;

Regarding claims 4 and 14, Yamada does not specifically disclose subdividing the information in the storage means into plurality of pieces of information. However, dividing information for storage is well known in the memory/storage art. Branscomb discloses an apparatus and method for assembling content addressable video "based on storing a plurality of frames of video data at addressable storage locations. Each frame of video data is stored with a tag which indicates the contents of the video image defined by the associated frame." (see abstract) Therefore, it would have been obvious to the skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Yamada et al. by providing the method of content addressable storage so that any of the associated data stored in the memory RAM 202 or the main memory storage may be identified and retrieved separately requiring less processing time and RAM space.

7. Claims **7 and 17** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Yamada**, U.S. Patent No. 6,288,750 in view of **Kirkland**, U.S. Pat. No. 5,900,908 as applied to claims **1,6,11, and 16** above, and further in view of **Branscomb**, U.S. Pat. No. 5,684,514.

Considering claim **7** and **17**, wherein the translation information stored in said translation information storage means is subdivided into a plurality of pieces of information to each of which a number identifying a corresponding part of the display video signal is assigned;

Regarding claim 7 and 17, the combination of Yamada and Kirkland as modified above does not disclose subdividing the translated information into plurality of pieces of information with a number identifying a corresponding part of the display video signal is assigned. However, again such method of dividing any information in memory or a storage area is well known in the art. In that regard, Branscomb discloses an apparatus and method for assembling content addressable video "based on storing a plurality of frames of video data at addressable storage locations. Each frame of video data is stored with a tag which indicates the contents of the video image defined by the associated frame." (see abstract) Therefore, it would have been obvious to the skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Yamada et al. and Kirkland by providing the method of content addressable storage so that any of the associated and translated data stored in the memory RAM 202 or the main memory storage may be identified and retrieved separately and easily requiring less RAM space, because each piece may be accessed and retrieved taking less processing time as well.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Inoue et al U.S. Patent No. 6,380,984 discloses a digital television broadcast receiving apparatus that includes OSD data processing and EPG information.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paulos M. Natnael whose telephone number is (703) 305-0019. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller can be reached on (703) 305-4795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PMN
March 16, 2004

PAULOS M. NATNAEL
PATENT EXAMINER